

Orders on Motions

1:06-cv-00421-JJF Davis v. Kearney et al HABEAS, PaperDocuments

U.S. District Court

District of Delaware

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The following transaction was entered on 12/14/2006 at 4:30 PM EST and filed on 12/13/2006

Case Name:

Davis v. Kearney et al

Case Number:

1:06-cv-421

Filer:

Document Number: 22

Docket Text:

ORDER denying [19] Motion for Access to Legal Documentation and Caselaw. Signed by Judge Joseph J. Farnan, Jr. on 12/13/06. (dab)

1:06-cv-421 Notice has been electronically mailed to:

Elizabeth Roberts McFarlan elizabeth.mcfarlan@state.de.us

1:06-cv-421 Notice has been delivered by other means to:

Christopher Joseph Davis SBI# 225275 Sussex Correctional Institution P.O. Box 500 Georgetown, DE 19947

The following document(s) are associated with this transaction:

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[STAMP dcecfStamp_ID=1079733196 [Date=12/14/2006] [FileNumber=316239-0 [43d759e66a99725f23c4b53a2acd021e01e12dcaedb3a6cfcd218df658d5e6da6df ba989e3677156af1b17d8624997ce21d3ab9144117a8f074b35778b41a594]]

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE DISTRICT OF DELAWARE

CHRISTOPHER JOSEPH DAVIS,

Petitioner,

10020101102,

v. : Civil Action No. 06-421-JJF

RICHARD KEARNEY, Warden, and CARL C. DANBERG, Attorney General for the State of Delaware,

Respondents.

ORDER

At Wilmington this 13 day of December, 2006;
IT IS ORDERED that:

Petitioner Christopher Joseph Davis' Motion for Access to
Legal Documentation and Caselaw is **DENIED**. (D.I. 19.) Prisoners
retain the right of meaningful access to the courts, which
"requires prison authorities to assist inmates in the preparation
and filing of meaningful legal papers by providing prisoners with
adequate law libraries or adequate assistance from persons
trained in the law." <u>Bounds v. Smith</u>, 430 U.S. 817, 828 (1977).
However, at least one judge in this district has held that
"prison officials of necessity must regulate the time, manner,
and place in which library facilities are used," as long as an
inmate's access is not so "attentuated as to become meaningless."

Hoover v. Watson, 886 F.Supp. 410, 419-20 (D. Del. 1994).

Additionally, the Third Circuit has held that segregated prisoners who do not have access to an institution's main law library must have some means by which documents and materials can be identified and furnished to them in a timely manner. Abdul-Akbar v. Watson, 4 F.3d 195, 203 (3d Cir. 1993).

Here, Petitioner states that he is currently housed at the Sussex County Work Release Center, which does not have a law library on its premises, and he asks the Court to order the officials at the Sussex County Work Release Center to afford him weekly access to a law library and daily access to Lexis/Nexis from a computer located at the Delaware Technical and Community College. Although Petitioner complains that his access to legal materials is limited, he does not allege that he has been denied complete access to a law library or that his limited access is meaningless. Therefore, the Court concludes that Petitioner's motion does not warrant action at this time.

JNITED STATES DISTRICT SUDGE